

**ABSTRACT**

**APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING OPTICAL RADIATION**

Apparatus for providing optical radiation, which apparatus comprises an optical fibre (5) having a core (3), a first cladding (1) and a second cladding (2), in which the first cladding (1) has a substantially constant diameter (9) in its cross-section. The first cladding (1) can be non-circular. Advantages include more reliable cleaving, joining and splicing.